Organisations representing interests of small scale sector

2030. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names and addresses of the organisations which have been recognised by the Industry as National Apex bodies representing the interests of small scale sector;

(b) the organisations representing exclusively the interest of Khadi, village, tiny and small scale industries and also those which are representing the interests of large, medium, tiny and small scale sector; and

(c) the year of establishment of the apex bodies exclusively representing the interests of small scale industries in Khadi, village and small scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c) There is no procedure or any policy guidelines regarding recognising any industry/association as an apex body. There are quite a number of associations which represent different categories of industries and sometimes representing large, medium as well as small scale industries. It is, therefore, difficult to say that any particular organisation is a national apex body representing the interests of the small scale.

Dharna Staged by Khadi Gramodhyog Sewa Karmi Association, India

2031. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khadi Gramodhyog Sewa Karmi Association, India had recently staged Dharna/Satyagraha at the Boat Club in New Delhi demanding early release and implementation of the Sodhia Committee Report on the wages and working conditions of Khadi workers of Khadi Ashram etc.;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to release and implement the recommendations of the said Committee; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government is examining the recommendations of the Sodhia Committee to take a final decision on its implementation.

Disinvestment of Shares of PSU(s)

2032. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's policy regarding the disinvestment of shares of PSU's;

(b) what are the reasons for selling shares of PSU's only through mutual funds; and

(c) what are the reasons for not selling shares of PSU's through market forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Government's policy regarding the disinvestment of shares of PSU's has been clearly announced in the Industrial Policy Statement of 1991 and the Budget Speech for 1991-92, which *inter alia*, says that in order to raise resources, encourage wider public participation and promote greater accountability, a part of the Government's share holding in selected public sector undertakings would be offered to mutual funds and investment institutions in the public sector, as also to workers.

(b) and (c) The first phase of the disinvestment process carried out in 1991-92 was to be smooth, non-controversial and also fair to the exchequer as well as to the investor.